

TOP SECRET

25X1

3 May 1952

25X1

Copy No. 52

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

DOCUMENT NO. 60
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. X
CLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S 2001
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 12-15-77
AUTH: HR 700
DATE: 12-15-77 REVIEWER:

25X1

25X1

Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1

State Department review completed

TOP SECRET

25X1

25X1A

SUMMARY

GENERAL

1. Attack on French airliner may have been object lesson to corridor violators (page 3).

FAR EAST

2. General Li Mi reported in Bangkok (page 3).

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3. Sentiment against British officials grows in Libya (page 4).

25X1

LATIN AMERICA

5. Bolivian Government threatened by labor leaders (page 5).

* * * *

25X1A

- 2 -

25X1A

25X1A

GENERAL

1. Attack on French airliner may have been object lesson to corridor violators:

25X1

American authorities in Berlin tend to believe that this attack on the Air France passenger plane was premeditated because of frequent Soviet complaints that airplanes have been flying out of the corridor. Therefore Soviet authorities may have decided to make an object lesson of the next violator by forcing it down or subjecting it to scare-gunfire.

According to the US High Commissioner's office in Berlin, the action appears to have been part of a previously conceived plan which went further than had been anticipated. This analysis is supported by the fact that no Soviet official was available to receive the Allied protest, an indication that the incident may have thrown the Russians off balance.

FAR EAST

2. General Li Mi reported in Bangkok:

25X1A

were told by Li that no supplies were available in Bangkok for their troops.

Two subordinate Chinese Nationalist commanders from Kengtung State in Burma have informed the American Embassy in Bangkok that General Li Mi is now in that city. They

- 3 -

25X1A

25X1A

Comment: While there is no information to confirm this report, the two Chinese officers from Burma informed the American Embassy last week that they had been ordered by a wire from Taipei to meet Li Mi in Bangkok early in May.

The Burmese Government has made repeated strong representations to the American, French and Thai governments to prevent Li Mi from returning to Southeast Asia.

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3. Sentiment against British officials grows in Libya:

25X1A



The relations between Libyan and local British officials employed by the Libyan Government have so deteriorated that the American Minister in Tripoli detects a growing resentment of Western "interference" in Libyan affairs.

He reports that several British officials have been released by the government and that others, feeling mistreated by Libya and abandoned by Britain, have left their jobs. Their places have been filled by incompetent friends of influential Libyans. The American Minister fears that if this process continues, it will destroy the first line of defense against the rise of nationalism and nepotism.

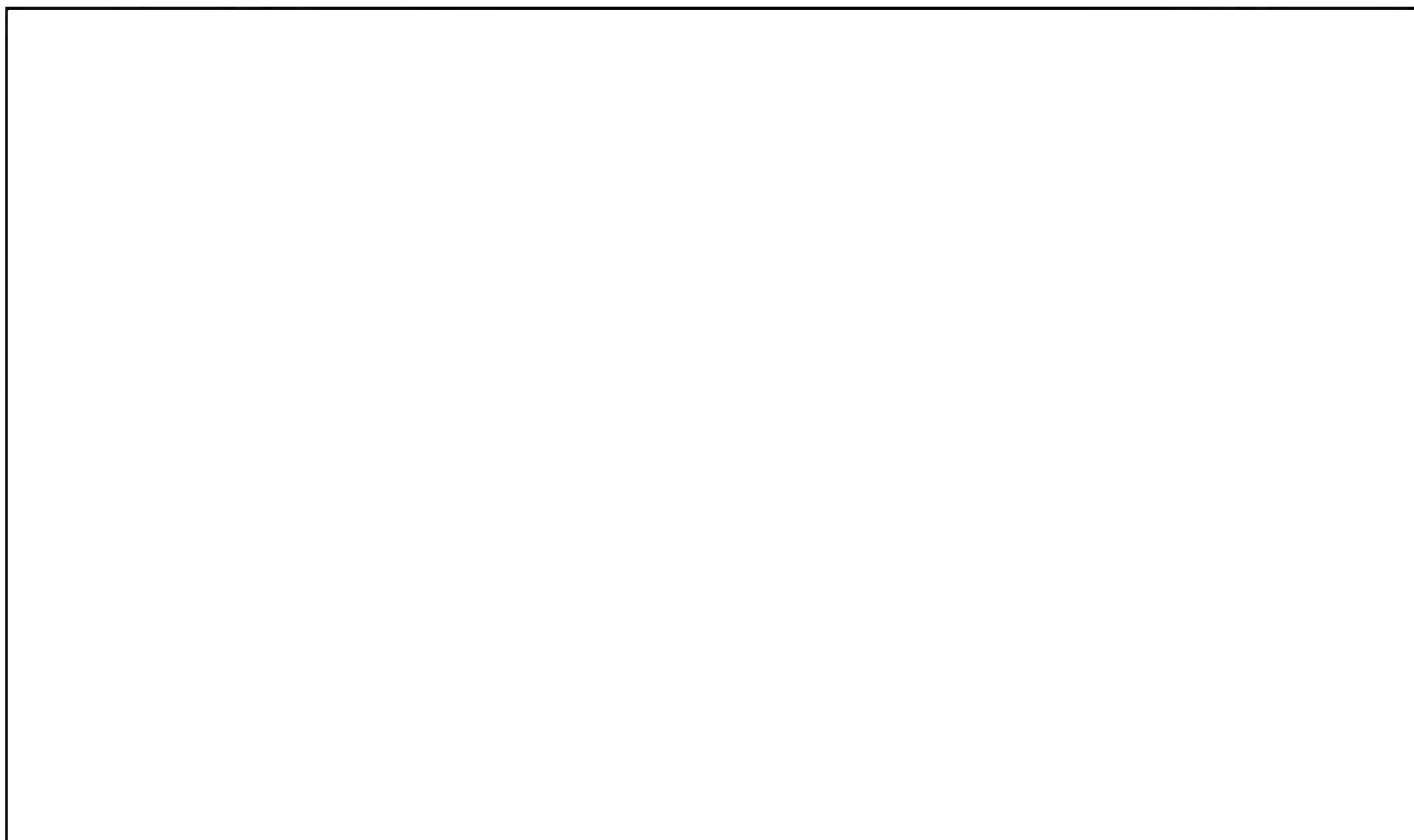
Comment: Anti-British feeling has already been making it difficult for Britain to negotiate a long-term military agreement with Libya. This country has become more strategically important to Britain because of the uncertainty of the Suez Canal situation.

So far there has been no indication that the Libyan Government harbors any anti-American sentiment. Libya has, in fact, been seeking American military assistance.

25X1A

25X1

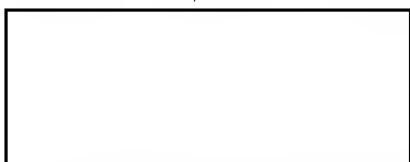
25X1A



LATIN AMERICA

5. Bolivian Government threatened by labor leaders:

25X1A



During May Day speeches in La Paz, Minister of Mines Lechin and other top union leaders warned that if the government wants to stay in office, it must keep its promises to labor and leave the unions alone. They stated that only the workers, who have the necessary arms, can stop the "counter-revolution."

- 5 -

25X1A

25X1A

Lechin referred to the workers and himself as "we" and alluded to the government as "they." His speech, which was broadcast, was followed by vivas for unionism and for former MNR presidents, but none for President Paz Estenssoro. The President's speech from the balcony of his residence was not broadcast.

Comment: The union leaders' speeches had the tone of an ultimatum to Paz Estenssoro's moderate faction to comply with their extremist demands or be ousted. Lechin's identification of himself with the workers' threats against the government brings into the open the division within the governing party over nationalization and labor benefits.

Since the arms distributed during the recent revolt have not yet been called in, labor could make an armed attack against the government.

- 6 -

25X1A